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Editor's Note

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the first issue of Volume 56 of the *Federal Communications Law Journal*. The staff is excited about this issue's broad range of topics, including local telephone service regulation, political advertising on broadcast television stations, mergers and acquisitions, cellular phone regulation, and advertising on public access channels.

In the first Article, Stuart Buck analyses, as a takings issue, the telephone company's struggle to meet its requirements under the TELRIC structure. In the second Article, Andrew D. Cotlar asserts that Wisconsin's recent legislation, which requires state-chartered public broadcasting television networks to carry political advertising for candidates free of charge, is damaging as an infringement on the principles of public broadcasting and dangerous if the principle and approach behind it are adopted by other states. In the third Article, Calvin S. Goldman, Q.C., Michael E. Piaskoski, and Ilene Knable Gotts review recent merger and acquisition activity and how the decisions to allow or deny "M&A" are viewed by regulatory agencies in the United States, the European Union, and Canada. In the fourth Article, Thomas W. Hazlett reviews cellular regulatory experiments and concludes that federal regulation is most appropriate and efficient. He fears that further state regulation of the cellular telephony could lead to undesirable balkanization of the industry.

In the note, Thomas Werner, a student at Indiana University-Bloomington School of Law, urges states, municipalities, and cable franchisees to include provisions in their cable franchise agreements such as those found in the Town of Oyster Bay, New York, prohibiting any level of commercial programming on public access channels so as to minimize the dangers that advertisers pose to the freedom of the public to have meaningful access to public airwaves. This issue concludes with Mary Newcomer Williams' review of the new book, *Controlling Market Power in Telecommunications: Antitrust vs. Sector-specific Regulation* by Damien Geradin and Michel Kerf.

On behalf of the Volume 56 Editorial Board, I would like to thank all of the authors for their contributions and cooperation with us during the editorial process. We are committed to providing our readers with broad coverage of interesting and important communications issues, and we appreciate the continued support of contributors and readers. As always, the *Federal Communications Law Journal* welcomes any questions, comments, and submissions concerning any issues that are of interest to the communications bar. The *Journal* can be contacted at Indiana University-Bloomington School of Law, 211 South Indiana Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana 47405; telephone (812) 855-5952; facsimile (812) 855-5871; and e-mail <FCLJ@indiana.edu>.

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